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**1 — Louisiana's sinking coast is a \$100 billion nightmare for Big Oil, Bloomberg, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2016-08-17/louisiana-s-sinking-coast-is-a-100-billion-nightmare-for-big-oil>

From 5,000 feet up, it's difficult to make out where Louisiana's coastline used to be. But follow the skeletal remains of decades-old oil canals, and you get an idea. Once, these lanes sliced through thick marshland, clearing a path for pipelines or ships. Now they're surrounded by open water, green borders still visible as the sea swallows up the shore.

**2 — 'The Cajun way': Neighbors helping neighbors as Louisiana flood hits Acadiana, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 8/16/2016**

<http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2016/08/cajuns-respond-to-louisiana-fl.html#incart=river-ho-me>

Travis Abshire and Kenneth Tucker hadn't seen an outsider since Friday when the floodwaters began to rise. It was late Wednesday afternoon when they saw the boat. The men had been stranded for days with their families in Mermentau Cove, deep in Acadia Parish farm country, and the boat carrying food and water was a welcome sight.

**3 — West Nile, Zika concerns heightened as floodwaters create mosquito breeding grounds, Baton Rouge Advocate, 8/17/2016**

[http://www.theadvocate.com/louisiana-flood-2016/article-16b40d52-64ac-11e6-86da-bb376acdee46.html?sr\\_source=lift&amplify](http://www.theadvocate.com/louisiana-flood-2016/article-16b40d52-64ac-11e6-86da-bb376acdee46.html?sr_source=lift&amplify)

The deadly flood that has swamped south Louisiana this week will likely mean more mosquitoes this summer as the floodwaters start to recede. State health leaders say that also could mean an increase in West Nile cases and even potentially a bigger threat of Zika virus.

**4 Watch 12 days of Louisiana storms in 42 seconds, New Orleans Times-Picayune, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.nola.com/weather/index.ssf/2016/08/watch-12-days-of-storms-over-l.html#incart=big-photo>

The Louisiana Flood of 2016 resulted from a series of thunderstorms that saturated soils across the state beginning as early as Aug. 5, followed by a slow-moving low pressure system that triggered flash flood-producing storms through Wednesday (Aug. 17). The rain runoff overfilled rivers, which are only now slowly retreating within their banks.

**5 — State fines owner of polluted drum site, Odessa American, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.oaoa.com/news/government/state-government/article-b3453d7e-64c7-11e6-be0d-43e04deef14.html>

State regulators punished the business owner accused of abandoning thousands of oil drums containing harmful pollutants just east of Odessa with an \$11,250 fine, while federal authorities have yet to collect on the nearly \$2 million in taxpayer money spent to clean-up the site.

**6 — Little Rock sewer panel backs bond refinancing; savings estimated at \$3.4M, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 8/18/2016**

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2016/aug/18/lr-sewer-panel-backs-bond-refinancing-s/?f=news-arkansas#/>

Little Rock Wastewater plans to refinance two loans at new interest rates to save the utility about \$3.4 million over the next two decades.

**7 — EPA Gets High-Profile Backers in Methane Legal Battle, BNA, 8/16/2016**

<http://www.bna.com/epa-gets-highprofile-n73014446473/>

California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the city of Chicago are backing EPA's methane emissions standards for new oil and gas infrastructure as lawfully issued under Section 111(b) of the Clean Air Act.

**8 — Oklahoma on the right course in addressing earthquakes (editorial), The Oklahoman, 8/15/2016**

<http://newsok.com/oklahoma-on-the-right-course-in-addressing-earthquakes/article/5513959>

AS of the middle of last week, Oklahoma had experienced 110 fewer magnitude-3.0 and greater earthquakes this year than it had during the same period of time in 2015. Why that's so, exactly, is up for debate.

**9 — Cebolla Lane saga illustrates government failure (opinion), Las Cruces Sun-News, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.lcsun-news.com/story/opinion/columnists/2016/08/17/biad-cebolla-lane-saga-illustrates-government-failure/88895084/>

Below the surface of the Cebolla Lane saga are two underlying lessons. The first, obviously, in fable-like clarity, is that ultimately we are responsible for our own well-being. It is manifestly obvious that without the citizens of Vado, and their own wheelbarrows, Cebolla Lane would never be repaired.

**10 — Business lobby slams EPA for unfunded mandates, The Hill, 8/17/2016**

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/291695-chamber-hits-epa-for-unfunded-mandates>

States are on the hook for implementing the majority of federal environmental regulations but receive little federal money to help them do that, according to a new report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

**11 — Concerns voiced to Arkansas Attorney General at Farm Bureau round table, Van Buren (AR) Democrat, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.vanburencountydem.com/news/20160817/concerns-voiced-to-arkansas-attorney-general-at-farm-bureau-round-table>

Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge came to the Van Buren County Farm Bureau Wednesday, August 10, for an informal round-table with area agriculture professionals. The one-hour conversation was a matter of citizens presenting their concerns to Rutledge and her responding to these concerns.

**12 — EPA atrazine decision could cost corn farmers \$2.5 billion, Ag Professional, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.agprofessional.com/news/industry/epa-atrazine-decision-could-cost-corn-farmers-25-billion>

A new report from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on atrazine could cost the industry \$2.5 billion in yield losses and increased input costs, at a time when net farm incomes are already in steep decline.

**13 — Monsanto Just Made a Massive Mistake, Mother Jones, 8/17/2016**

<http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2016/08/monsanto-mistake-dicamba>

A couple of weeks ago, the Environmental Protection Agency announced it had gotten an "unusually high number of reports of crop damage that appear related to misuse of herbicides containing the active ingredient dicamba."

